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In the Claims

Amend the Claims as follows

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method of presenting an animal to be milked, the method comprising:
 - (a) rearwardly loading the animal into one of a plurality of milking stalls by passing the animal rearward through an ingress/egress end of the stall; and
 - (b) forwardly unloading the animal from the one of the plurality of milking stalls by passing the animal forward through the ingress/egress end and directly into a common released area, each milking stall having ~~[[a]]~~ its own unique exit path extending from the milking stall to ~~[[a]]~~ the common released area.
2. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising milking the animal prior to forwardly unloading the animal from the one of the plurality of milking stalls.
3. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising passing the animal through an ingress/egress gate located at the ingress/egress end of the stall upon rearwardly loading the animal into the one of the plurality of milking stalls.
4. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising operably aligning a milking robot with the one of the plurality of milking stalls prior to forwardly unloading the animal from the one of the plurality of milking stalls.
5. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising loading the animal to be milked onto a transport cart ~~[[prior to]]~~ and rearwardly loading the animal from the transport cart into the one of the plurality of milking stalls.
6. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising monitoring animal specific data prior to unloading the animal from the one of the plurality of milking stalls.

7. **(Original)** The method of Claim 6, further comprising matching the monitored animal specific data with a corresponding identified animal.
8. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising locating an operator pit adjacent a rear end of the milking stall.
9. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein the unique exit path associated with one of the plurality of milking stalls is parallel to a unique exit path associated with a second one of the milking stalls.
10. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising moving a moveable platform from a spaced first position to a second position adjacent a rear end of the milking stall.
11. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising simultaneously rearwardly loading a second animal into a second one of the plurality of milking stalls.
12. **(Currently Amended)** A method of presenting an animal to be milked, the method comprising:
- (a) rearwardly loading the animal into a milking stall from a moveable transport cart; and
 - (b) forwardly unloading the animal from the milking stall directly into a common released area.
13. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, further comprising milking the animal prior to forwardly unloading the animal from the milking stall.
14. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 12, further comprising passing the animal tail first through an ingress/egress gate upon rearwardly loading the animal into the milking stall.

15. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, further operatively aligning a milking robot with the milking stall prior to forwardly unloading the animal from the milking stall.

16. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, further comprising loading the animal to be milked onto a transport cart prior to rearwardly loading the animal into the milking stall.

17. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, further comprising monitoring animal specific information prior to unloading the animal from the milking stall.

18. **(Original)** The method of Claim 17, wherein monitoring animal specific information includes machine reading a tag connected to the animal.

19. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, further comprising locating an operator pit adjacent a rear end of the milking stall.

20. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, further comprising moving a moveable platform from a spaced first position to a second position adjacent a rear end of the milking stall.

21. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, further comprising loading a plurality of animals onto the transport cart.

22. **(Original)** A method of presenting an animal to be milked, the method comprising:

- (a) loading a first animal onto a transport cart;
- (b) translating the transport cart to align with an unoccupied milking stall; and
- (c) rearwardly loading the first animal into the unoccupied milking stall from the transport cart.

23. **(Original)** The method of Claim 22, further comprising translating the transport cart along a direction transverse to a longitudinal dimension of the milking stall.

24. **(Original)** The method of Claim 22, further comprising forwardly unloading the first animal from the milking stall.

25. **(Original)** The method of Claim 22, further comprising forwardly unloading the first animal from the milking stall into a released area.

26. **(Original)** The method of Claim 22, further comprising forwardly unloading the first animal from the milking stall into a released area along a unique path.

27. **(Original)** The method of Claim 22, further comprising loading a second animal onto the transport cart prior to unloading the first animal.

28. **(Original)** The method of Claim 22, further comprising moving a moveable platform from a first position spaced from the milking stall to a second position adjacent a rear end of the milking stall.

29. **(Original)** The method of Claim 22, further comprising aligning a milking robot with the milking stall.

30. **(Original)** The method of Claim 22, further comprising acquiring animal specific data from the first animal on the transport cart.

31. **(Original)** The method of Claim 22, further comprising reading a radio frequency identification tag on the first cow when the first cow is in the transport cart.

32. **(Currently Amended)** A method of presenting an animal to be milked in a milking parlor, the method comprising:

(a) moving a first animal to be milked onto a first animal transport cart;

(b) translating the [[a]] first animal transport cart along a predetermined path relative to a plurality of milking stalls to operably locate the transport cart with respect to an unoccupied milking stall; and

(c) moving the animal from the transport cart and into the unoccupied milking stall.

33. **(Original)** The method of Claim 32, further comprising forming a released area adjacent the plurality of milking stalls.

34. **(Original)** The method of Claim 32, further comprising operably locating a robotic arm with respect to the milking stall to dispose a milking claw into the milking stall.

35. **(Cancel)** ~~The method of Claim 32, further comprising loading at least one animal on the first animal transport cart prior to moving the first animal transport cart.~~

36. **(Original)** The method of Claim 32, further comprising translating a second animal transport cart relative to the plurality of milking stalls.

37. **(Original)** The method of Claim 32, further comprising loading a plurality of animals onto the first animal transport cart.

38. **(Original)** The method of Claim 32, further comprising moving an ingress/egress gate from an open position to a closed position upon rearwardly loading the animal into the milking stall.

39. **(Original)** The method of Claim 32, further comprising acquiring data specific to a given animal during translation of the first animal transport cart.

40. **(Original)** The method of Claim 32, further comprising operably connecting a radio frequency identification reader to the first animal cart.

41. **(Original)** The method of Claim 32, further comprising urging the animal rearwardly into the milking stall by a distance independent of an adjacent milking stall.

42. **(Currently Amended)** A milking parlor comprising:

(a) a milking stall to receive an animal to be milked from a transport cart, the milking stall having an animal ingress/egress end; and

(b) ~~[[a]]~~ the transport cart translatable relative to the milking stall between a first position aligned with the ingress/egress end of the milking stall and a second position spaced from the milking stall.

43. **(Original)** The milking parlor of Claim 42, further comprising an ingress/egress gate connected to the milking stall, the ingress/egress gate moveable between a closed position and an open position.

44. **(Original)** The milking parlor of Claim 43, wherein the ingress/egress gate is a lift gate.

45. **(Currently Amended)** The milking parlor of Claim ~~[[42]]~~ 43, wherein the ingress/egress gate rotates about a horizontal axis.

46. **(Currently Amended)** The milking parlor of Claim ~~[[42]]~~ 43, wherein the ingress/egress gate rotates about a vertical axis.

47. **(Currently Amended)** The milking parlor of Claim 42, wherein the milking stall includes a closed end opposite the ingress/egress end and further comprising an operator pit adjacent the closed end.

48. **(Currently Amended)** The milking parlor of Claim 42, [wherein the milking stall includes an open end and] further comprising a released area adjacent the ~~[[open]]~~ ingress/egress end.

49. **(Original)** The milking parlor of Claim 42, further comprising a robotic arm connected relative to the milking stall and moveable between a milking position at least

partially disposed within the milking stall and a retracted position at least partially disposed outside the milking stall.

50. **(Original)** The milking parlor of Claim 42, further comprising a RFID reader connected to the transport cart.

51. **(Original)** The milking parlor of Claim 42, further comprising a moveable platform moveable between a first position spaced from the milking stall and a second position adjacent a rear end of the milking stall.